



FLORAL STREET SCHOOL

February Preview

www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/schools/Floral



Dear Floral Families,

- Some parents have been asking about the situation for Grade 5 for next year. As you may have seen in the local newspapers, there is a question as to whether the renovated Oak Middle School (Grades 7 & 8) will be ready for the opening of school. While there is the possibility that all the fifth grades in Shrewsbury next year could “stay put,” regardless of what happens the current Floral fourth graders will be at the Sherwood Middle School site next year. As of this time, the plan is that those students will be under the supervision of the new Sherwood Middle School principal/ assistant principal(s), given that the new administration will be in place there. More information on this will be coming in March once the School Committee makes a decision regarding next year’s configuration given the progress of the renovated school at that point. Please don’t hesitate to call if you have questions.

- Despite the brutal weather we’ve been having, the students and staff are chasing away the winter “blahs” with engaging learning activities. We are continually impressed with the quality of the lessons we observe when we visit classrooms, both for our formal observations and our informal “drop-ins.” It is a pleasure to work in a school environment where we constantly see evidence of our core value of “demonstrating a positive attitude about learning.”

Our teachers are continuing to work very hard to ensure that the curriculum is focused on the most essential knowledge and skills our students must have to be successful. They are also developing and using assessments of students’ performance that provide good information regarding where each student stands in relation to the expected standards for that grade level. This information will be communicated in detail on the report card that will be issued on **March 22**. The time and effort teachers have spent on these tasks during the January 20 professional development day and during staff meetings are helping us to adjust our academic program so that we are continuously improving the quality of teaching and learning. We are excited about this work and believe that it will be highly beneficial to all of our students, and we look forward to hearing more from you about the new report card in late March. We will be available on the next **parent conference day (March 24)** to answer questions about the new report card: Please look for more detailed information in the coming weeks.

~ Joe Sawyer & Jane Lizotte

Important Notes:

- A parent and community forum with the three finalists for principal of the Sherwood Middle School is being held on **Wednesday, February 4 at 7:00 at Town Hall**.
- A district-wide workshops on sensory integration and its link to learning and behavior will be held at Parker Road Preschool on February 9 at 7:00 p.m. A workshop on **children’s self esteem** will be held in the Floral cafeteria on January 15 at 7:00 p.m. Please look for the flyer for more information on this grant funded event.
- Because Valentine’s Day is on a Saturday, classroom exchange of valentines will take place on Friday, February 13. Classroom activities vary, so please look for information from the classroom teacher.

Please see the back for the February calendar.

Floral Street School - Important Dates in February

February 4	Sherwood Middle School principal search: Forum with three finalists @ 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall
February 9	District-wide Parent Workshop on Sensory Integration at Parker Rd. Preschool @7:00 p.m.
February 10	PTO meeting @ 7:00 in the media center (free childcare available)
February 12	Grade 5 & Grade 4 Chorus concert @7:00 (make-up from January 28; Gr. 4 classes are Beall, Edgren, Walsh, & Wilson)
February 16-20	No school – February Vacation
February 24	School Council meeting @ 7:00 p.m.
February 24	Grade 1 Family Night, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
February 26	Grade 5 Band concert at 7:00 @ Middle School
February 27	Grade 2 Family Night, 6:30-9:30

Looking ahead to March...

March 4	Special Education Parent Council presentation on Ritalin @ 6:30 in the Floral cafeteria
March 24	No School-Parent Conference Day

• **MCAS testing** will take place during the following weeks in 2004. Please avoid planning travel and/or appointments that will affect attendance during these times.

Grade 3: March 22-April 2

Grade 4: March 30; May 17-28

Grade 5: May 17-28